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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 567
By Gunnels

A RESOLUTION to designate the Agricultural Exposition Center
at Roane State Community College as the
"Henry-Stafford Agricultural Exposition Center".

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor
those distinguished public servants who in their years of work have served their beloved
Tennessee and her citizenry with singular dedication and unparalleled devotion; and

WHEREAS, former state representatives Jim Henry and Benny Stafford are two such
people, who as members of the Tennessee General Assembly distinguished themselves on
Capitol Hill as men of great wisdom and compassion and earned the universal respect and
admiration of their peers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Henry represented the good people of the 32nd House District with
distinction for 12 years, as a member of the 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th and 96th General
Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, as chairman of the 91st General Assembly's House Republican Caucus and
as House Minority Leader for the 92nd, 93rd and 94th General Assemblies, Jim Henry worked
assiduously in support of numerous good works, not for honor or acclaim, but rather for the
gratification of knowing the 32nd District and the people of Tennessee benefited from his efforts;
and

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WHEREAS, through the years, Mr. Henry has contributed his time and considerable talents at all levels of government, as evidenced by his stalwart service as a commissioner of the Roane County Industrial Development Board, as Kingston city mayor, as a member of the Kingston City Council and as chairman of the State Republican Party; and

WHEREAS, he is also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion; in 1980, he was the recipient of the Tennessee Jaycees Outstanding Young Man Award, an honor most befitting this distinguished gentleman; and

WHEREAS, Mr. M.F. "Benny" Stafford is a man of like stature; he was first elected to the Tennessee State House of Representatives in 1970 and served for 18 consecutive terms, astutely representing the 21st District as a member of the 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th and 95th General Assemblies; and

WHEREAS, Benny Stafford served with integrity and distinction as House Republican Whip for two years and as House Republican Caucus Chairman for ten years; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Lenoir City High School, Mr. Stafford served in the United States Air Force for 14 years, with tours of duty during the Korean War and in Germany; and

WHEREAS, an astute businessman, he is the owner of four general insurance agencies, a senior vice president of the First Heritage National Bank of Loudon County, and is involved in real estate and farming; and

WHEREAS, despite the demands placed upon him, Benny has still found time through the years to contribute as a member of the Civitan and Optimist Clubs, the Masons and the Shriners; he is a recipient of the Jaycees Outstanding Young Man of the Year Award and the Loudon County Distinguished Citizens Award; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that men of Jim Henry's and Benny Stafford's stature walk among us and it is important that a lasting tribute be established by the people of this state in their honor; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Agricultural Exposition Center at Roane State Community College is hereby designated as the "Henry-Stafford Agricultural Exposition Center" in recognition of their lifelong contributions to the people of Roane County and the state of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That suitable markers be erected or suitable signs be affixed, designating such Center as the "Henry-Stafford Agricultural Exposition Center".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That certified copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Chancellor of the State University and Community College System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That certified copies of this resolution also be transmitted to Jim Henry and Benny Stafford, with this final resolving clause deleted from such copies.